



# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural  
Statistics

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 22

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Most areas of the state received some much needed precipitation last week, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. Soil conditions were getting dry in many fields around the state. The rain will help grain fill in corn and pod fill on soybean plants. Warmer temperatures along with sunshine helped major crops advance toward maturity. Farmers are preparing equipment and grain bins for the expected early harvest of corn and soybeans. Corn harvest was underway in a few fields in the southwestern region of the state. Sudden Death Syndrome is evident in some soybean fields

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 5.0 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dough** stage compared with 63 percent last year and 83 percent for the average. Fifty-two percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dent** stage compared with 17 percent last year and 42 percent for the average. Seven percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 1 percent last year and 2 percent for the average. Corn **condition** is rated 79 percent good to excellent compared with 56 percent last year at this time.

Virtually all of the soybean acreage is **blooming** except for some very late planted fields. Ninety-five percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 77 percent last year and 89 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** is rated 73 percent good to excellent compared with 57 percent last year at this time.

Third cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 64 percent complete compared with 44 percent last year and 69 percent for the average.

Other activities during the week were repairing equipment, attending the state fair, spraying, scouting fields, mowing roads, cleaning out grain bins, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 14 percent excellent, 54 percent good, 23 percent fair, 8 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| Crop                  | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year Avg |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Percent               |           |           |           |            |
| Corn in Dough         | 90        | 78        | 63        | 83         |
| Corn in Dent          | 52        | 34        | 17        | 42         |
| Corn Mature           | 7         | NA        | 1         | 2          |
| Soybeans Podding      | 95        | 85        | 77        | 89         |
| Alfalfa Third Cutting | 64        | 50        | 44        | 69         |

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

| Crop    | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|---------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Percent |           |      |      |      |           |
| Corn    | 2         | 4    | 15   | 52   | 27        |
| Soybean | 3         | 5    | 19   | 51   | 22        |
| Pasture | 1         | 8    | 23   | 54   | 14        |

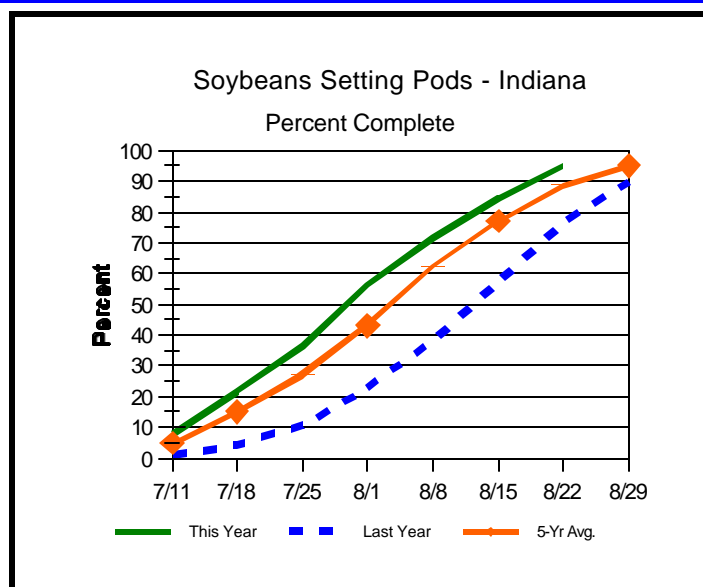
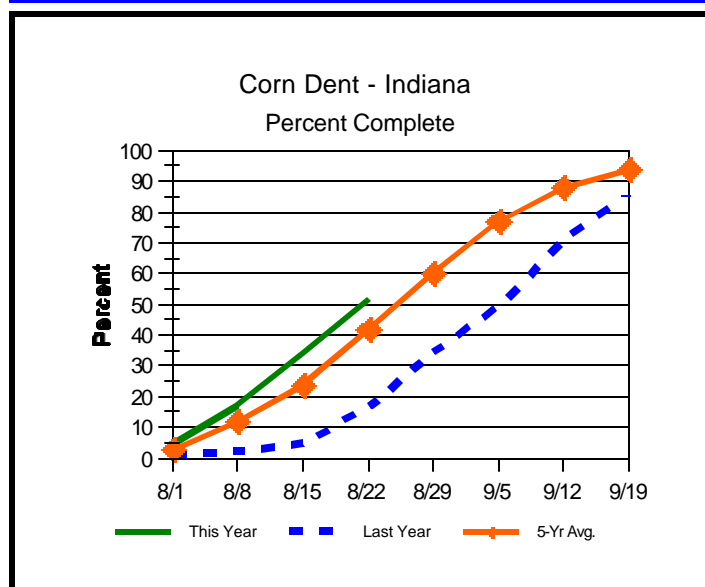
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

|                      | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Percent              |           |           |           |
| <b>Topsoil</b>       |           |           |           |
| Very Short           | 3         | 3         | 8         |
| Short                | 19        | 28        | 31        |
| Adequate             | 71        | 67        | 59        |
| Surplus              | 7         | 2         | 2         |
| <b>Subsoil</b>       |           |           |           |
| Very Short           | 3         | 3         | 6         |
| Short                | 19        | 19        | 21        |
| Adequate             | 75        | 76        | 70        |
| Surplus              | 3         | 2         | 3         |
| <b>Days Suitable</b> | 5.0       | 6.6       | 6.8       |

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Soybean Sudden Death Syndrome

Σ SDS is prevalent in southern Indiana

Two weeks ago, we cautioned that high risk for Sudden death syndrome (SDS) was prevalent in Indiana (*Pest&Crop* No. 20) based on observations in farmers fields and Abney's and Westphal's research plots strategically located in southern and central Indiana. At that time, we reported awareness of SDS in highly susceptible varieties. In brief, these conditions include high soil moisture at the beginning reproductive stages and early planting. Currently, foliar symptoms of SDS are most evident across southwest Indiana. When traveling in southern Indiana, we observed large areas with SDS. Symptoms were seen in about half of the fields. Soybeans in fields with SDS are in growth stages R5 to R6 (pod fill), the typical time for the disease to show-up.



Fig. 1. Defoliation of soybean plants with SDS along the turn-row of a soybean field.

Details of the biology of SDS can be found in our previous article. SDS occurs in typical field patterns. Turn

rows and wet spots of the affected fields are often first showing premature yellowing of soybean leaves and death of the soybean plants. However, we have also observed fields with an overall healthy plant population,

but sprinkled, apparently random plants with SDS symptoms. When inspecting trouble fields, foliar symptoms are a first indication for SDS. Initially, leaves have yellow to brown areas between the major veins. In the progression of SDS, leaflets die and shrivel and drop off, leaving the petioles (leaf stalks) attached. While brown stem rot has similar foliar symptoms, it is distinguished from SDS by symptoms in the plant stem. Brown stem rot darkens the pith but not the cortex. In contrast, the lower stem and taproot of a plant with SDS will exhibit a dark-brown cortex, but white, maybe tan, pith. If a plant with symptoms of SDS is dug from moist soil, there may be small, light-blue patches on the surface of the taproot. So if you suspect SDS in a trouble field you want to dig SDS-suspect plants from the soil, inspect the roots for a blue coating of SDS spores and split the stem.



Fig. 2. Single soybean plant with severe SDS: note that blades and pods have dropped off while petioles remain attached to the main stem.

It is likely that this year's widespread occurrence of SDS in southern Indiana is associated with high soil moisture and the very early planting of soybean. SDS researchers throughout the North

(Continued on Page 4)

# Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday August 22, 2004

| Station           | Past Week Weather Summary Data |    |     |     |         |      |      | Accumulation       |        |               |       |      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------|------|------|--------------------|--------|---------------|-------|------|
|                   | Air                            |    |     |     |         |      | Avg  | April 1, 2004 thru |        |               |       |      |
|                   | Temperature                    |    |     |     | Precip. |      | 4 in | August 22, 2004    |        |               |       |      |
|                   |                                |    |     |     |         |      | Soil | Precipitation      |        | GDD Base 50°F |       |      |
|                   | Hi                             | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total   | Days | Temp | Total              | DFN    | Days          | Total | DFN  |
| Northwest (1)     |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Chalmers_5W       | 85                             | 48 | 65  | -7  | 1.11    | 4    | 69   | 23.49              | +5.41  | 49            | 2209  | -184 |
| Valparaiso_AP_I   | 80                             | 47 | 64  | -7  | 1.46    | 4    |      | 16.70              | -1.98  | 58            | 2082  | -101 |
| Wanatah           | 82                             | 42 | 63  | -8  | 1.67    | 4    | 71   | 16.79              | -1.44  | 60            | 1942  | -147 |
| Wheatfield        | 81                             | 46 | 64  | -7  | 1.39    | 3    |      | 30.24              | +12.47 | 61            | 2037  | -104 |
| Winamac           | 81                             | 50 | 64  | -6  | 3.44    | 4    | 67   | 23.52              | +5.48  | 62            | 2119  | -89  |
| North Central (2) |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Plymouth          | 80                             | 49 | 64  | -8  | 2.92    | 4    |      | 21.15              | +2.86  | 62            | 2050  | -262 |
| South_Bend        | 80                             | 50 | 65  | -7  | 0.74    | 4    |      | 18.56              | +1.00  | 65            | 2173  | +1   |
| Young_America     | 82                             | 47 | 65  | -7  | 3.01    | 4    |      | 22.80              | +5.57  | 56            | 2222  | -44  |
| Northeast (3)     |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Columbia_City     | 78                             | 46 | 63  | -7  | 2.64    | 5    | 67   | 21.56              | +4.15  | 66            | 2031  | -40  |
| Fort_Wayne        | 80                             | 46 | 65  | -8  | 2.55    | 4    |      | 22.82              | +6.54  | 61            | 2201  | -68  |
| West Central (4)  |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Greencastle       | 84                             | 46 | 66  | -8  | 1.05    | 4    |      | 20.41              | -0.05  | 58            | 2210  | -341 |
| Perrysville       | 86                             | 45 | 67  | -5  | 1.00    | 3    | 75   | 17.79              | -1.67  | 47            | 2426  | +42  |
| Spencer_Ag        | 87                             | 50 | 68  | -5  | 1.00    | 3    |      | 24.02              | +3.08  | 62            | 2384  | -22  |
| Terre_Haute_AFB   | 87                             | 46 | 69  | -5  | 1.44    | 3    |      | 16.33              | -3.08  | 55            | 2581  | +41  |
| W_Lafayette_6NW   | 83                             | 45 | 65  | -6  | 0.38    | 4    | 75   | 21.27              | +3.22  | 45            | 2226  | -33  |
| Central (5)       |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Eagle_Creek_AP    | 84                             | 52 | 69  | -5  | 0.86    | 1    |      | 17.81              | -0.50  | 57            | 2483  | -36  |
| Greenfield        | 86                             | 51 | 68  | -5  | 1.40    | 1    |      | 19.77              | -0.43  | 57            | 2357  | -57  |
| Indianapolis_AP   | 87                             | 54 | 70  | -3  | 1.31    | 2    |      | 23.81              | +5.50  | 51            | 2578  | +59  |
| Indianapolis_SE   | 86                             | 50 | 69  | -5  | 1.58    | 1    |      | 20.03              | +1.01  | 50            | 2374  | -129 |
| Tipton_Ag         | 83                             | 46 | 66  | -5  | 2.37    | 4    | 73   | 19.39              | +1.05  | 57            | 2152  | -43  |
| East Central (6)  |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Farmland          | 81                             | 47 | 66  | -5  | 1.39    | 3    | 66   | 19.15              | +1.33  | 57            | 2193  | +51  |
| New_Castle        | 83                             | 45 | 64  | -7  | 1.84    | 2    |      | 22.08              | +2.61  | 45            | 1945  | -248 |
| Southwest (7)     |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Evansville        | 91                             | 50 | 72  | -4  | 0.26    | 2    |      | 19.81              | +1.29  | 48            | 2931  | +5   |
| Freelandville     | 90                             | 52 | 70  | -4  | 1.26    | 2    |      | 20.43              | +1.11  | 49            | 2619  | -4   |
| Shoals            | 92                             | 48 | 69  | -5  | 0.41    | 1    |      | 23.10              | +2.14  | 53            | 2610  | +75  |
| Stendal           | 93                             | 54 | 72  | -4  | 0.62    | 1    |      | 20.33              | -0.39  | 49            | 2796  | +40  |
| Vincennes_5NE     | 91                             | 49 | 71  | -3  | 1.83    | 2    | 76   | 21.26              | +1.94  | 59            | 2725  | +102 |
| South Central (8) |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Leavenworth       | 91                             | 53 | 70  | -4  | 0.93    | 2    |      | 28.20              | +6.73  | 57            | 2652  | +127 |
| Oolitic           | 88                             | 50 | 69  | -4  | 0.72    | 2    | 75   | 23.35              | +3.15  | 58            | 2466  | +41  |
| Tell_City         | 93                             | 55 | 73  | -3  | 0.74    | 2    |      | 25.03              | +3.88  | 50            | 3001  | +204 |
| Southeast (9)     |                                |    |     |     |         |      |      |                    |        |               |       |      |
| Brookville        | 91                             | 50 | 70  | -2  | 1.22    | 2    |      | 17.30              | -2.31  | 47            | 2500  | +198 |
| Milan_5NE         | 88                             | 50 | 69  | -3  | 1.26    | 4    |      | 24.41              | +4.80  | 77            | 2454  | +152 |
| Scottsburg        | 90                             | 49 | 69  | -6  | 0.68    | 1    |      | 31.35              | +11.47 | 53            | 2568  | -40  |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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## Soybean Sudden Death Syndrome (Continued)

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Central Region agree that planting early into cool soils increases the risk for this disease. The important predisposing factor: high soil moisture at beginning reproductive stages was also given as rain patterns provided water during the critical stages. We expect a continued spread of SDS symptomatic plants in areas where both predisposing conditions are given.

Currently, there is no "quick-fix" remedy for SDS. Yield losses will depend on when (severity and soybean growth stage) SDS fields were infected and what proportion of the plant population was infected. This 2004 SDS awareness should prompt growers to carefully select soybean varieties that have superior ratings by seed companies relative to SDS. Large efforts on the management of SDS are afforded throughout the North Central Region, supported by the

Indiana Soybean Board, the North Central Soybean Research Program and the United Soybean Board. Emphasis is placed on the development of resistant soybean lines, but also on the basic biology and ecology of the disease. At this time, it is important to make careful note of where the disease occurs (which fields, the pattern of the disease within a field, and symptom severity). In future plantings, the avoidance of extremely early planting, choosing varieties less susceptible to SDS, and any cultural methods that reduce excessive soil moisture, e.g., breaking of compaction layers or improved drainage, has potential to help to manage SDS.

—Andreas Westphal and Scott T. Abney, Purdue University

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